
City of Mitchell

612 NORTH MAIN STREET • MITCHELL, SOUTH DAKOTA 57301

City of Mitchell
Mayor's Office
(605) 995-8420
FAX (605) 995-8054

May 8, 2009

The Honorable Stephanie Herseth-Sandlin
U.S. House of Representatives
331 Canon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Herseth-Sandlin:

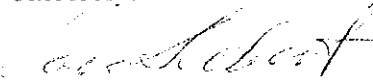
On behalf of the City of Mitchell, I am respectfully requesting your assistance in securing funding from Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Legislation for a project in Mitchell, South Dakota. The project consists of development and installation of an additional access to the Mitchell Technical Institute's south campus and other properties in the vicinity. I understand a map from Lyndon Overweg, City of Mitchell Director of Public Safety, and Greg Von Wald, President of Mitchell Technical Institute, have been submitted. Additionally, Neil Putnam, Mitchell City Planner, has been in communication with your staff.

I support the project for the reasons the aforementioned parties mentioned, particularly in regards to safety and congestion. An additional access will also benefit future development. Mitchell has been the beneficiary of significant development on the Interstate 90 corridor and we are hopeful new investments will be forthcoming. Therefore, it is critical that access be sufficiently designed to accommodate traffic in an efficient and safe manner. The MTI south campus is expanding and additional students are likely. MTI's students well being and safety are a concern of MTI and the City of Mitchell. We welcome a relationship with MTI and other interested parties in finding alternatives that will improve access and we would welcome your assistance in the facilitation of a collaborative arrangement.

As you know, this area is the location of the annual Dakota Farm Fest which thousands attend and provides significant economic activity. However, during the festival traffic can be extremely congested and train traffic may potentially delay emergency response. We are pleased this event has blossomed into a premier event in South Dakota and our community wants to insure the visitors and vendors have a pleasant experience.

Again, the City of Mitchell welcomes your consideration and support in securing financial assistance in identifying the most economical and practical route to achieve an additional access. The City and MTI are also requesting subsequent funding for the eventual construction and related costs for the new streets and improvements. I would welcome any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lou Sebert".

Lou Sebert
Mayor of Mitchell